**Nineteen events, unfolding between July and August, in the Monti Pallidi mountains**

**NATURE WELCOMES MAGICAL SOUNDS AND SILENCES**

**The “Sounds of the Dolomites” Festival, now in its twenty-second edition, is held against the beautiful backdrop of the Trentino Dolomites and features a music programme spanning classical, jazz, world and auteur music. This year, the highlights of the Festival are Misha Maisky, Stefano Bollani, Mari Boine, Ballake Sissoko, Giuliano Carmignola, Mario Brunello, Yong Min Cho, Neri Marcorè, Franco D’Andrea, Markus Stockhausen and Cristina Donà**

Extraordinary sounds in an extraordinary setting: from 2 July to 26 August, the Trentino Dolomites – a Unesco World Heritage Site – will be hosting the 22nd edition of the renowned “Sounds of the Dolomites” Festival, where nature and music meet and ideally embrace, offering visitors a wonderful opportunity to enjoy world-class performers of classical, jazz, world and auteur music. Organised by the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism and sponsored by Trentino Marketing, the Apt’s (Tourist Boards) of Val di Fassa, Val di Fiemme, San Martino di Castrozza-Passo Rolle-Primiero-Vanoi, Val di Non, Madonna di Campiglio-Pinzolo-Val Rendena, Dolomiti Paganella, Terme di Comano-Dolomiti di Brenta, and a host of other local public and private sponsors, under the artistic direction of Chiara Bassetti and Paolo Manfrini, the Festival is once again a not-to-be-missed opportunity to admire exciting environmental and cultural landscapes and share unforgettable moments of pleasure for the soul and the ear.

A breathtaking scenario of rocks, pastures, woodland and wind, and much more besides; a scenario that also becomes a wonderful acoustic experience, where the notes resound upwards and around you, endowed with unusual hues and expressive inflections. Up there, high in the mountains, where the landscape serves as a stage set and platform, music breathes like nowhere else, engages with silence and keeps away the noises of everyday life. The strings and wood of the violins and cellos bow to the air, clarinets, trumpets and saxophones frolic among the clouds; every voice magically becomes a choir.

The concerts of the “Sounds of the Dolomites” are held in the early afternoon, and at dawn too, near the Alpine refuges: the spectators and performers hike up together to the mountain peaks, pastures and woods. On reaching the setting of the concert, after the long hike up together, the audience gathers around the musicians in an informal – albeit respectful – atmosphere, for a once-in-a-lifetime artistic and human experience. There is no separation between spectators and performers, who experience this event in exactly the same way, as a special opportunity to exchange small and great emotions, first and foremost. And at the end of the concert there’s time enough to admire the beauty of the landscape and to stroll along mountain paths which very much resemble the paths in life.

Thus, tourists coming from all the corners of Europe and beyond to visit Trentino every summer are rewarded with the opportunity to combine relaxation, food and music, against a landscape of universally renowned beauty: the concerts of the “Sounds of the Dolomites” recount these landscapes, invite the spectators to abstract themselves from everyday life and encourage them to reflect and admire their surroundings with heightened awareness.

Music as a universal language, the mountains as spaces of freedom, these are the two cornerstones of a Festival that, year after year, peak after peak, has become one of the most anticipated events by art and mountain lovers, widely reviewed in the national and international media.

The 2016 edition of the “Sounds of the Dolomites” Festival opens on 2 July, on the pastures of Jonta, in Val San Nicolò (Val di Fassa), with a tribute to the singer-songwriter Fabrizio De André, by the actor **Neri Marcorè**, performing here as a singer and guitar player, and the **Gnu Quartet**, a rather unusual instrumental ensemble (cello, violin, flute, viola). The notes and words of the great “Faber”, as De Andrè was affectionately known to his fans, will resound again amidst the mountains on 12 August, near the Bait del Germano at Busa del Cancanù (Altopiano della Paganella), facing the Brenta Dolomites, thanks to the project “*Amore che vieni amore che vai”* by a number of renowned Italian auteur and jazz music performers: **Cristina Donà**, the pianist **Rita Marcotulli**, the bassist **Enzo Pietropaoli**, the trumpetist **Fabrizio Bosso**, the saxophonist **Javier Girotto**, the guitarist **Saverio Lanza** and the drummer **Cristiano Calcagnile**.

Two jazz pianists will also be making the hike up into the Trentino mountains this year: **Franco D’Andrea** and **Stefano Bollani**. The former, one of the most important names of the Italian jazz scene since the 1960s, will perform on 6 July at Passo di Lavazé, in view of Mount Latemar (Val di Fiemme), with the clarinetist Daniele D’Agaro, the trombonist Mauro Ottolini and, as special guest, the electrifying Dutch drummer and percussionist Han Bennink; while the younger piano star Stefano Bollani will perform alone on 3 August, in the fields of Val Duron, near Rifugio Micheluzzi (Val di Fassa), where he will most certainly delight spectators with his much appreciated skills as an excellent musician and communicator.

Yet more jazz, albeit with a chamber jazz feel to it, on 10 July at the Bergvagabunden Hütte (Val di Fassa), with the duo formed by **Markus Stockhausen** (trumpet) and **Tara Bouman** (clarinets, basset horn), whose dialogue will span the silent mountains, the blue skies and the audience; and on 24 August, at Camp Centener (Val Rendena), one of the most spectacular panoramic points in the Brenta Dolomites, with **Richard Galliano**. The French accordionist will pay tribute to the beauty of the Dolomites with a new composition accompanied by a group of strings.

Classical music lovers should not miss the performance by the Latvian-born cellist **Mischa Maisky**, whose great technical skills and excellence of expression may be admired on 20 July at the Rifugio Rosetta Giovanni Pedrotti (San Martino di Castrozza), at 2581 m asl, the highest location for this edition of the Festival. The programme includes the third and fifth Cello Suites by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Maisky’s concert will be followed, a few days later, from 23 to 25 July, by a trek up to the Rosengarten group (Val di Fassa) with another internationally renowned cellist, **Mario Brunello**, performing together with the violinist **Giuliano Carmignola** and the Norwegian **Rolf Lieslevand**, who specialises in playing the Baroque guitar and other ancient instruments, such as the vihuela and the theorbo. The 3-day trek will end on 25 July at the recently refurbished Rifugio Antermoia, with a programme of Baroque music (featuring music by Vivaldi first and foremost) and transcriptions of folk melodies that inspired the songs of the Great War.

Brunello, a welcome guest of the “Sounds of the Dolomites” since its first edition, embodying as he does its more adventurous side, will return to Trentino on 10 August, this time at Pian della Nana, in the shadow of Monte Peller, in the Val di Non, in an interdisciplinary performance with the Korean dancer **Yong Min Cho**, who uses a contemporary language inspired by the tradition of his country.

More classical music in another two events that take place in settings offering breathtaking views of the Eastern Dolomites and the Brenta group, respectively: on 18 July, at the Lakes of Bombasèl (Val di Fiemme) with the **Selmer Saxharmonic**, a German sax ensemble directed by Milan Turkovic (featuring music by Dvorak, Milhaud, Shostakovic, Rota and Morricone), and on 29 July, at the Giovanni Segantini Refuge in Val Rendena, with the trio formed by the clarinetists **Alessandro Carbonare**, **Luca Cipriano** and **Perla Cormani** (Mozart, Poulenc, Beethoven, as well as jazz pieces by Charlie Parker and Chick Corea).

There will also be a taste of classical music, together with songs of various periods and styles, as part of a trek to the Pale di San Martino (31 July – 2 August), with the vocalist **Petra Magoni** and the archlutist **Ilaria Fantin**. The final concert, in the early afternoon of 2 August at Villa Welsperg, in the Paneveggio-Pale di San Martino nature park, Petra Magoni will perform with her longstanding music companion, the double-bassist **Ferruccio Spinetti**, who is one half of the successful **Musica Nuda** project.

There will also be many world music or crossover performers*,* with a combination of different musical styles or genres: the classical violinist **Gilles Apap** will be performing on 14 July at Malga Movlina (Val Rendena – Terme di Comano) with the Serbian accordionist Srdjan Vukasinovic and the Turkish “baglama” (Anatolian lute) player Taylan Arikan - together the **Meduoteran** ensemble; the **Huun-Huur-Tu** quartet from the Republic of Tuva, guardians of the ancient tradition of harmonic chant, will perform on 5 August at Buse de Tresca (Val di Fiemme); the Malian **Ballaké Sissoko** and **Vincent Ségal**, from France, will engage in an Afro-European kora-cello duo at Malga Canvere (Val di Fassa) on 22 August; the **Barcelona Gipsy balKan Orchestra**, with members coming from Serbia, France, Ukraine, Italy, Greece and, of course, Catalonia, will bring with them a broad array of different cultural influences on 26 August, at Ciampac (Val di Fassa).

And, of course, this year too there will be a dawn concert, on 16 July, at Col Margherita, one of the panoramic points offering spectacular views over the Dolomite groups. At the break of day, when the rising sunlight turns the mountains into a spectacle of indescribable beauty, the singer **Mari Boine** will sing songs of the Sami tradition accompanied by Roger Ludvigsen (guitar), Paolo Vinaccia (percussions), Corrado Bungaro (violin and nyckelharpa), Giordano Angeli (soprano sax and guitar) and Carlo La Manna (fretless bass).

All the concerts start at 1 pm, except for the dawn concert on 16 July, which starts at 6 am. The treks require payment of a fee and are for a limited number of participants. Telephone booking only, from 2 May: 0462 609666 for the 23 – 25 July trek, or 347 4944220 for the 31 July – 2 August trek.

(r.v.)

Trento, April 2016

Sounds of the Dolomites is an idea of and organised by the Apt’sw (Tourist Boards) of Val di Fassa, Val di Fiemme, San Martino di Castrozza, Passo Rolle, Primiero e Vanoi, Val di Non, Madonna di Campiglio-Pinzolo-Val Rendena, Dolomiti Paganella, Terme di Comano-Dolomiti di Brenta and Trentino Marketing.

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Once again, the 2016 edition of the *Sounds of the Dolomites* Festival will be sponsored by Montura. The affinity between the Festival and the sportswear brand springs from the common aim to search for new spaces and forms of expression, which, like in the Montura Editing projects, feature moments of confrontation and complicity on different planes of communication. A friendship springing from the experience of a common path towards art and the mountains.



*Sounds of the Dolomites* and *Marzadro* walk together.   
Between nature and culture, tradition and innovation, along a path of passion and commitment rooted in the past, which allows us today to present Trentino through two testimonials of excellence: our mountains and their values and grappa as a distillated essence of our region’s identity.